FROM ROGITZ 619 338 8078

(THU) JUN 30 2005 10:27/ST. 10:27/No. 6833031955 P 2

CASE NO.: HSJ920030051US1

Serial No.: 10/629,513

June 29, 2005

Page 2

PATENT

Filed: July 29, 2003

(original) A structure for a magnetic read head, comprising:

at least one read sensor;

at least a first lead layer juxtaposed with the sensor, the first lead layer having a first polish

resistance; and

at least a second lead layer juxtaposed with the first lead layer and being disposed further

away from the sensor than is the first lead layer, the second lead layer having a second polish

resistance less than the first polish resistance.

2. (original) The structure of Claim 1, wherein the first lead layer is electrically connected at

least to the sensor and the second lead layer is electrically connected at least to the first lead layer.

3. (original) The structure of Claim 1, wherein the first lead layer includes Rhodium (Rh) and

the second lead layer includes Tantalum (Ta).

4. (original) The structure of Claim 1, wherein the first and second lead layers include materials

chosen from the following respective combinations: Tantalum (Ta)/Tungsten (W), Tantalum (Ta)/Copper

(Cu), Gold (Au)/Copper (Cu), and Rhodium (Rh)/Aluminum (Al).

(original) The structure of Claim 1, wherein the first lead layer defines a thickness and the

sensor defines a thickness substantially equal to the thickness of the first lead layer.

1189-3.AM1

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FROM ROGITZ 619 338 8078

(THU) JUN 30 2005 10:28/ST. 10:27/No. 6833031955 P

CASE NO.: HSJ920030051US1

Serial No.: 10/629,513

June 29, 2005

Page 3

PATENT Filed: July 29, 2003

6. (original) The structure of Claim 1, wherein the second lead layer is recessed away from the sensor relative to the first lead layer.

- 7. (original) The structure of Claim 1, comprising at least one hard bias magnet layer under the first lead layer opposite the second lead layer.
- 8. (original) The structure of Claim 1, comprising at least one upper protective layer covering the second lead layer opposite the first lead layer.
  - 9. (original) A method for making a read head, comprising:
    establishing a sensor on a substrate;
    establishing a first lead layer having a first polish characteristic next to the sensor;
    establishing a second lead layer having a second polish characteristic next to the first layer;
    and

polishing the layers such that the second lead layer is recessed away from the sensor and the first lead layer is not.

- 10. (original) The method of Claim 9, further comprising:using a chemical mechanical polish (CMP) during the polishing act.
- 11. (original) The method of Claim 9, further comprising:

1189-3.AM1

FROM ROGITZ 619 338 8078

(THU) JUN 30 2005 10:28/ST. 10:27/No. 6833031955 P 4

CASE NO.: HSJ920030051USI

Serial No.: 10/629,513

June 29, 2005

Page 4

PATENT

Filed: July 29, 2003

depositing a hard bias magnet layer next to the sensor prior to establishing the first lead layer.

12. (original) The method of Claim 9, further comprising:

depositing a protective layer on the second lead layer prior to the polishing act.

13. (currently amended) A magnetic read head <u>assembly</u> comprising:

at least one sensing structure supported by a substrate;

at least one hard bias magnet layer juxtaposed with the sensing structure;

at least one controller receiving signals from the sensing structure representative of data

stored on a magnetic disk closely spaced from the sensing structure; and

a lead structure connecting the sensing structure to the controller, the lead structure including:

at least a first lead layer juxtaposed with the sensing structure, the first lead layer

having a relatively low removal rate; and

at least a second lead layer juxtapesed with the first lead layer and having a relatively

high removal rate, the sensing structure being closer to the first lead layer than to the second

lead layer.

14. (currently amended) The magnetic read head assembly of Claim 13, wherein the first lead

layer is electrically connected at least to the sensing structure and the second lead layer is electrically

connected at least to the first lead layer.

1189-3.AMI

FROM ROGITZ 619 338 8078

(THU) JUN 30 2005 10:28/ST. 10:27/No. 6833031955 P

CASE NO.: HSJ920030051USJ

Serial No.: 10/629,513

June 29, 2005

Page 5

PATENT

Filed: July 29, 2003

15. (currently amended) The magnetic read head assembly of Claim 13, wherein the first and

second lead layers include materials chosen from the following respective combinations: Tantalum

(Ta)/Tungsten (W), Tantalum (Ta)/Copper (Cu), Gold (Au)/Copper (Cu), and Rhodium (Rh)/Aluminum (Al).

16. (currently amended) The magnetic read head assembly of Claim 13, wherein the first lead

layer includes Rhodium (Rh) and the second lead layer includes Tantalum (Ta).

17. (currently amended) The magnetic read head assembly of Claim 13, wherein the first lead

layer defines a thickness and the sensing structure defines a thickness substantially equal to the thickness of

the first lead layer.

18. (currently amended) The magnetic read head assembly of Claim 13, wherein the second lead

layer is recessed away from the sensing structure relative to the first lead layer.

19. (currently amended) The magnetic read head assembly of Claim 13, comprising at least one

hard bias magnet layer under the first lead layer opposite the second lead layer.

(currently amended) The magnetic read head <u>assembly</u> of Claim 13, comprising at least one

upper protective layer covering the second lead layer opposite the first lead layer.

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